Recommend for Entry PAC 15 JUL06.

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WINDOW WITH GLAZING PROFILE DESCRIPTION



Technical Field

The present invention relates to a window with a glazing profile, to a glazing for the window, and also to the glazing profile itself. The window may be for a vehicle, and further aspects of the invention relate to methods of glazing a window in a vehicle, and of centering the glazing relative to an aperture in a vehicle body.

Vehicle windows are often glazed by direct bonding, i.e. an adhesive material is used to attach the glazing to the vehicle body. This method allows flush glazing (i.e. the outer surface of the window is flush with the vehicle body) or near-flush glazing, and, as well as improving the product, may reduce assembly costs because it lends itself to automation using robots.

The deployment of robots for this task is greatly facilitated if the glazing self-centers as it is inserted in the aperture. Accurate centering is especially important when the glazing is to be flush glazed without a trim strip covering the gap between the edge of the glazing and the adjacent bodywork, because if the glazing is off-center, the gap will vary in width around the perimeter of the glazing, which is aesthetically undesirable.

Another consideration is to provide means for retaining the glazing in place while the adhesive material sets. There is obviously little point in obtaining accurate centering of the glazing during its initial insertion in the aperture if it slips out of position before the adhesive has set.

A further consideration is that the window should appear aesthetically acceptable from the inside of the